

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-57 are pending in the present application.

In response to the outstanding Office action, Applicants hereby elect with traverse Group III claims 42-49 for prosecution. Claims 1-27 are cancelled without prejudice.


In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that, as the Examiner correctly indicated, claims 28-41 of Group II are also drawn to a bioreactor having a first connection and second connection channel and confining means in a region in a chamber proximate the first connection channel, wherein the confining means comprises a plurality of traps. Claims of Group II and claims of Group III are different in that the confining means for each group has different mechanical structure, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 28-41 of Group II and claims 42-49 of Group III are not directed to patentably distinct inventions as the Examiner asserted and *searching the claims 28-41 of Group II with the claims 42-49 of Group III does not impose a serious burden on the Office*. Therefore, inventions of claims 28-41 of Group II should be entered and examined together with elected claims 42-49 of Group III together.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this Response or the Application in general, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at 404-495-3678.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS, MANNING & MARTIN, LLP

November 22, 2006



Tim Tingkang Xia
Attorney for Applicants on the Record
Reg. No. 45,242

MORRIS, MANNING & MARTIN, LLP
1600 Atlanta Financial Center
3343 Peachtree Road, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30326-1044
Phone: 404-233-7000
Direct: 404-495-3678
Customer No. 24728